

B. J. YOUNG AND OTHERS.

JANUARY 19, 1897.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. PUGH, from the Committee on War Claims, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany House Res. No. 497.]

The Committee on War Claims, to whom was referred the bills (H. R. 5058, 2093, 2115, 2090, 1574, 2516, 1765, 1087, 2496, 2537, and 8799) for the relief of B. J. Young, of Henderson County, Tenn.; estate of W. H. Neal, deceased, late of Shelby County, Tenn.; estate of B. B. Neville, deceased, late of Shelby County, Tenn.; Jacob Glenn, of Shelby County, Tenn.; Mary F. Pollan, administratrix of William H. Pollan, deceased, late of Crittenden County, Ark.; Mary M. Westmoreland, of Lauderdale County, Ala.; estate of W. S. Hyland, late of Warren County, Miss.; S. L. Carpenter, of Fayette County, Tenn.; estate of James L. Holland, deceased, late of Lauderdale County, Ala.; Vincent Armstead, of Lauderdale County, Ala., and Mrs. Sarah E. Norton, of Shelby County, Tenn., respectfully report as follows:

These claims for stores, supplies, and property taken by or furnished to the Federal forces for their use were referred by the Committee on War Claims of the House of Representatives of a previous Congress to the Court of Claims for determination, under the act of Congress approved March 3, 1883, known as the Bowman Act.

Much testimony was taken and submitted to the court pursuant to its rules, but no determination of facts as to the loyalty of the claimants or the appropriation of the stores and supplies or property by the Federal forces, as alleged, was made by said court, for the reason that the court held that the single action of the House committee in referring said claims was not sufficient to confer jurisdiction upon it to hear and determine those questions under said act of March 3, 1883.

Hence the above-numbered bills were introduced for the relief of the said claimants.

Your committee have fully considered the facts of each claim, and upon this consideration, and it being manifest that all the parties have proceeded in entire good faith before the Court of Claims and at considerable expense in taking testimony, they recommend the passage of the accompanying resolution, transmitting said bills to the Court of Claims to find and report the facts in each case, as provided in the act "to provide for bringing suits against the Government of the United States," approved March 3, 1887.